The
Standards
Forum

News on the DOE Technical Standards Program

Volume 7 – Number 2 – September 1999

Savannah River Targets Cost Savings Through Standards Reduction

By Art Blanchard, Savannah River Site

In 1995, the Savannah River Site (SRS) initiated a cost-effective task to have the site's standards system mandate usage of national codes and standards in lieu of internal site-specific standards. The results reduced the cost of the standards program and resulted in the site being in full compliance with the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (NTTAA), which eventually became Public Law 104-113, signed by the President on March 7, 1996. The following is a brief history of how this task was accomplished.

Early Standards Practices at the Savannah River Site

From the early 1950s, the Savannah River Site used DuPont commercial standards to govern design, construction, and maintenance activities. When the contract with DuPont expired in 1989, the site had no legal means to revise or maintain the DuPont commercial standards. With the passage of time, the DuPont standards became out of date and the site needed a method to keep site standards current. In 1992, the DuPont standards were reviewed by the site Engineering Standards Board (ESB). Some DuPont standards were replaced by national codes and standards, but the majority were converted into approximately 700 Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) standards and guides. This conversion provided the site with the capability to revise and keep the WSRC site standards current.

NTTAA Generates Standards Conversion

In 1995, with the pending passage of the NTTAA, the ESB was given the responsibility to convert the existing WSRC site standards over to national codes and standards wherever practical. To accomplish this, the ESB chartered technical committees made up of subject matter experts. The existing standards and guides were then grouped into the proper engineering disciplines and assigned to the appropriate technical committees

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DOE/ISM Feedback and Improvement Workshop

By Lynne Kroggel, Los Alamos National Laboratory

To date, efforts throughout the Department of Energy are being established to strengthen the incorporation of the fifth core function of ISM, namely "Feedback and Improvement (F&I)." An example of just such an effort was seen at the "DOE/ISM Feedback and Improvement Workshop" held in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 20-21, 1999.

General and Breakout Sessions Provide Helpful Viewpoints

This two-day workshop was sponsored by the Savannah River Site and the Safety Management Implementation Team. It provided a platform of shared experiences and information for DOE and contractor personnel involved in the implementation of feedback and improvement mechanisms. Presentations and breakout sessions focused on such things as "big picture" issues of F&I, feedback and improvement methods used in Safeguards and Security by the protective force and operating contractors, senior management perspectives, and contractor assessment including independent assessment.

During the first general session of the workshop, Joe DiNunno of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board presented the following remarks:

- Upgrading safety management in DOE is the goal.
- Think "feedback for improvement" rather than "feedback and improvement".
- "Zero tolerance" is a great goal, but it is "constancy" that has to be maintained.
- Feedback implies that one has to input energy into the system…energy is being fed back into the system to stabilize it.
- To do work safely will take a constant effort…one has to ask, "What do I need?" and "What do I need to pass on?"…all of this can be summed up by:

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We're Going Paperless!!!
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Save Time and Money—Avoid Producing Unauthorized Documents!

This Note is directed at the DOE standards development community. Technical Standards Managers should pass it on to their managers and Preparing Activities to help keep activities aligned with the Directives System and consistent with DOE policy and requirements.

The DOE has a strong and clear commitment to the use of the Directives System (DS) and the DOE Technical Standards Program (TSP). This commitment appears in the Integrated Safety Management (ISM) Policy; Directives System Policy, Manual and Order; Nuclear Safety Policy; and TSP Order. Related responsibilities are contained in the FAR Manual. DOE has also committed to establishing and using an effective DS and TSP in its response to DNFSB Recommendation 91-1. Furthermore, DOE conformance with the use of voluntary consensus standards by Federal agencies as mandated through requirements and policy contained in Public Law 104-113 and OMB A-119 is implemented and monitored through the TSP.

DOE P 251.1, "Directives System Policy," (under "RESPONSIBILITIES") clearly states: "All Departmental Elements will follow the Directives System Order (DOE O 251.1) and Manual (DOE M 251.1-1A) and will integrate the principles contained in this policy in the development of all documents intended to convey requirements or guidance to other organizations." DOE O 251.1 states that: "Directives include Policies, Orders, Notices, Manuals, Regulations, Technical Standards and related documents, and Guides." It further states that, "The Directives System is the only process by which one DOE organization can issue a document establishing requirements that affect other DOE organizations."

The FAR Manual, in Section 9.2.2.2, "Technical Standards for Use Within DOE," states that among "OPI (Office of Primary Interest) Responsibilities" is the responsibility to "coordinate draft DOE Technical Standards in accordance with directions from the DOE Technical Standards Program."

DOE P 450.4, "Safety Management System Policy," in "COMPONENT 4, Integrated Safety Management—Mechanisms", states: "Safety Mechanisms define how the core safety management functions are performed. The mechanisms may vary from facility to facility and from activity to activity based on the hazards and the work being performed and may include: Departmental expectations expressed through directives (policy, rules, orders, notices, standards, and guidance) and contract clauses; Directives on identifying and analyzing hazards and performing safety analyses; Directives which establish processes to be used in setting safety standards; contractor policies, procedures and documents (e.g., Health and Safety Plans, Safety Analysis Reports, Chemical Hygiene Plans, Process Hazard Analyses) established to implement safety management and fulfill commitments made to the Department."

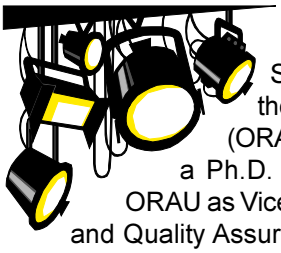
Technical Standards, as defined by OMB A-119 and the DOE TSP (DOE O 1300.2A, under "Definitions," Item g., and under the pending new TSP Order, DOE O 252.1) are: "A prescribed set of rules, conditions, or requirements concerned with classification of components; delineation of procedures; specification of materials, products, performance, design, or operations; or the definition of terms or measurements of quality and quantity in describing materials, products, systems, services, or practices." If a document sets conditions or requirements, specifies performance, defines quality, and describes practices, you can be very sure that it should be a DOE Technical Standard (DOE-STD), DOE Specification (DOE-SPEC), or DOE Handbook (DOE-HDBK). If such a document is not processed under the TSP, then it is an "Unauthorized Document," or more commonly known as a "rogue" document. An "Unauthorized Document" must be either withdrawn or modified, or converted to a Directive or DOE Technical Standard to have standing within DOE per DOE M-252.1-1A.

The DS Manual treats "Unauthorized Documents" as follows (Chapter V, 1. INTRODUCTION): "a. This chapter describes a process for handling information that should be within the Directives System but is issued outside that System. Specifically, requirements that cross organizational lines but are not issued within the Directives System are considered unauthorized directives. b. The concern with unauthorized directives is that they (1) fail to receive appropriate evaluation by affected parties; (2) often are not distributed to all affected or interested parties; thus they do not receive full evaluation, nor is there an adequate assessment of the effect of directives; (3) over time, are ignored or forgotten because they are not in a structured system under which they may be retrieved; and (4) may cause unintended technical, financial, or legal consequences."

DOE has made extensive commitments and conducted extensive development to promote the use of voluntary consensus standards and to assure the quality and pedigree of its internally developed nuclear safety standards. Using the existing TSP processes for development, distribution, comment resolution, approval, and maintenance of technical standards is required by DOE. DOE continues to strive to eliminate "consultant-developed" standards and the unilateral imposition of requirements through a single program office. Additionally, there are significant cost and time savings in using existing, approved DS and TSP systems and procedures in lieu of creating and using new, separate standards processing systems independent of the Directives System. Use of the TSP results in legitimate Directives documents, registered and posted as DOE Technical Standards.

This Note reiterates DOE's requirements that its "standards" must be processed under the DS/TSP. A recent example of a set of Department "standards" that should be managed within the DS/TSP are the 23 Technical Qualification Standards (as nuclear safety-related technical standards) developed under the Technical Qualification Program (TQP). Cognizant senior (SES-level) managers, TQP personnel, and local document coordinators should ensure that pending renewal activities for these "standards" are coordinated through their respective DOE Technical Standards Managers to facilitate the documents' development as legitimate DOE Directives/Technical Standards.

Technical Standards Manager Spotlight



William A. (Tom) Thomas is the Senior Planning and Assessment Specialist in the President's Office of the Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU), Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He holds a Ph.D. in ecology and a J.D. He served ORAU as Vice President for Environment, Safety, and Quality Assurance until 1995 and as Vice President for Planning and Performance until 1998.

ORAU is a private, not-for-profit consortium of 87 colleges and universities. It also operates the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) for the Department of Energy. ORISE conducts research and training in workforce health and safety, provides emergency preparedness and response services, performs hazardous site characterization and cleanup verification, and develops and implements fellowship and research participation programs.

In April 1998, Tom assumed the added responsibility of Technical Standards Manager (TSM). In a recent interview, he revealed interesting insights into the role of standards in the work of ORISE and offered some helpful suggestions for communicating with standards users about the roles of DOE Orders and technical standards and how they work together for the benefit of users.

The use of voluntary consensus standards, with an emphasis on performance-based rather than prescriptive approaches, will work best in achieving the DOE's wide-ranging missions.

— Tom Thomas

How did you first get involved in technical standards work? Who or what were the original influences?

Three situations over the past 20 years shaped my appreciation of technical standards and their importance in diverse settings. The first was a search for flexible performance standards to replace the rigid prescriptive standards of building codes in a program designed to encourage the use of solar energy systems. The second dealt with determining the legal standard of care—"reasonableness"—in allocating liabilities for failures in the design and operation of complex technical systems. Technical standards can be indispensable resources in deciding what constitutes a "best practice." The third situation was my introduction about 10 years ago to the use of DOE Technical Standards in defining best business practices in the ES&H context.

How does the DOE Technical Standards Program (TSP) fit into ORISE's objectives?

Perhaps the best example of using technical standards comes from our work with contaminated sites, where we are responsible for characterizing the radiological wastes before cleanup begins and for evaluating the thoroughness of the cleanup after the project is completed. Technical standards play a critical role in deciding how best to protect the safety and health of workers while enhancing environmental quality.

How has the TSP helped ORISE provide research and training for Federal agencies in workforce health, safety, security, and other areas?

The TSP has helped greatly in the transition from the prescriptive approach that was associated with the old DOE Orders to a more flexible performance-based approach. Many contractor employees seem surprised to learn that adoption of a technical standard does not automatically impose another costly requirement. Rather, the proper selection of technical standards through DOE/contractor negotiation (e.g., in compiling a set of Work Smart Standards) can avoid duplication of effort. Once this important feature is understood, the role of technical standards is readily appreciated by contractors as well as by DOE.

What do you find to be most satisfying about your work with standards?

I appreciate the latitude afforded in deciding when a TSM's time and resources should be devoted to TSP activities. For example, if the subject of a draft standard does not fall within the expertise and interests of ORISE, I don't feel compelled to review it, although I might. On the other hand, it is gratifying to have the opportunity to help implement a technical standard that will be used extensively at ORISE and elsewhere.

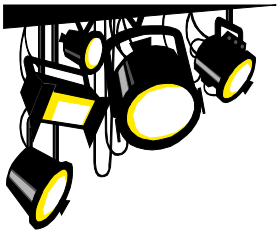
What goals, mission, and vision do you believe should direct the TSP over the next decade?

I believe the TSP should continue to produce and promote performance-based, flexible documents that spur innovation and establish best business practices. The use of voluntary consensus standards, with an emphasis on performance-based rather than prescriptive approaches, will work best in achieving the DOE's wide-ranging missions.

What are your interests or hobbies outside your professional work?

I've cut down on golf because it takes too much time, but I'm still outdoors a lot—running, gardening, maintaining hiking trails, and watching birds. The deer, rabbits, and woodchucks have won the battle of the vegetable patch, so I'm now limited to flower gardens. I'm keenly interested in helping to preserve large areas of our landscape, like the Oak Ridge Reservation, for the use and enjoyment of future generations.

Technical Standards Manager Spotlight



Charles F. Mell
Technical Standards Manager
Fluor Daniel Fernald
Cincinnati, Ohio

Charles (Chuck) Mell, Jacobs Engineering Group, is the Requirements Manager for Fluor Daniel Fernald (FDF) at the Fernald Site in Cincinnati, Ohio. This assignment includes the responsibility of Technical Standards Manager (TSM). It also includes the responsibility for the site Standards/Requirements Identification Document (S/RID) along with membership on the site Price Anderson Amendments Act (PAAA) oversight team.

His nuclear industry career began in 1970 with the Navy Nuclear Program, serving onboard a fast attack submarine. He jokingly refers to that assignment as a 'full-time job' comparing it to those assigned to ballistic missile submarines having rotating crews. This experience has given him a background in the Navy's nuclear power rules and regulations.

Beyond this assignment, Chuck spent 13 years in the commercial nuclear industry where he trained, qualified and licensed as a Senior Reactor Operator at Three Mile Island (TMI). Chuck considers the accident at TMI to be a wake-up call for the industry, and he has made a personal commitment to do whatever it takes to prevent this type of accident from recurring. This has motivated him to develop an extensive knowledge of plant programs, nuclear regulations, safety analysis, technical specifications and root cause analysis. The years following have given him the opportunity to correct recurring negative trends at other nuclear plants related to Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) ratings from the NRC.

Chuck now has 10 years with the DOE sector, assigned to two facilities and DOE-HQ. Opportunities have included participation on DOE Directives compliance reviews, development of S/RIDs, and project Operational Readiness Reviews (ORRs). This experience has given him a background in statutory and regulatory requirements, commercial standards, agency directives and PAAA rules.

In 1993, Chuck started at Fernald. Based on his background Chuck says that he has a unique perspective on program requirements and expectations. Clearly, the three sectors of his experience fall under different regulations and have different missions, but safety is always a common goal. DOE's implementation of this concept is the Integrated Safety Management (ISM) program, which is implemented at Fernald by contract and the site S/RID. Understanding of the safety program and knowing how to accomplish given safety goals are what Chuck considers his greatest contributions to the project. The safety program also ties directly back to the TSM responsibility. While the use of technical standards at Fernald is different than most sites (Fernald is working toward closure in 2006), the site's primary focus remains on safety. Not many standards exist for Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) activities and while the lack of D&D standards does not prohibit the cleanup effort, it would greatly enhance it. The commercial nuclear industry is presently struggling with the same issue.

> ***The strength of the TSM network is the coming together of interested technical individuals in a common goal and developing the best path forward to successfully complete the assigned task. Information resources are open and abundant within the DOE, which greatly adds to the experience baseline.***
>
> **— Chuck Mell**

The strength of the TSM network is the coming together of interested technical individuals in a common goal and developing the best path forward to successfully complete the assigned task. Information resources are open and abundant within the DOE, which greatly adds to the experience baseline. The monthly teleconference and annual meeting provide a very necessary common approach to the standards activities.

Chuck enjoys traveling, golfing and fishing. His travel experiences have especially afforded the added value of reinforcing his commitment to the importance of following nationwide and international standards in the building industry. He related to *The Standards Forum* that on a recent trip to a developing country, the significant role that standards play in everyday life was repeatedly brought home to him as he noticed that electrical and safety standards were not being uniformly practiced.

Topical Committee Developments

Five years ago in response to Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 93-3, "Improving DOE Technical Capability in Defense Nuclear Facilities Programs" (dated June 1, 1993), a Headquarters effort was undertaken in conjunction with the Field to develop a series of technical standards that established a minimum set of competencies for the Department's safety managers. The result was the Technical Qualification Program and a series of technical qualification standards that were developed apart from the DOE Technical Standards Program (TSP).

The Technical Qualification Program is divided into three levels of technical competence and qualification. The General Technical Base Qualification Standard establishes the base technical competence required of all DOE defense nuclear facility technical personnel. The Functional Area Qualification Standards build on the requirements of the General Technical Base Qualification Standard and establish Department-wide functional competence requirements in each of the identified functional areas. Office/facility-specific technical qualification standards establish unique operational competency requirements at the Headquarters or Field element, site, or facility level.

In response to a commitment made by the DOE to the DNFSB, a comprehensive five-year "Sunset Review" is being made of these technical qualification standards, and an implementation plan and guidance have been written covering the process. The Technical Standards Program Office (TSPO) is working to coordinate activities between the TSP and the Federal Technical Capability Panel, the group assigned to perform the review effort. It is unclear at this time what the timing and scope of this effort will be. It is understood that the goal is to have all of these technical qualification standards updated and issued by the year 2000. The Executive Secretary of the Federal Technical Capability Panel maintains a list of subject matter experts (SMEs) for each of the Technical Qualification Standards. It is the expectation of the TSPO that SMEs nominated by Headquarters and Field offices to participate in the review effort will be, in many cases, current members of TSP topical committees.

If you are a member of a DOE working group or work in a functional area that could qualify as a TSP topical committee, contact M. Norman Schwartz, 301-903-2996, **Norm.Schwartz@eh.doe.gov**, or Richard Serbu, 301-903-2856, **Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov**. You will have the benefit of coordinating with your peers on technical standards activities and sharing expertise and lessons learned.

DOE Fire Safety Committee Develops Implementation Plan

*By: Dennis Kubicki, Chair, Fire Protection Topical Committee (301-903-4794, **Dennis.Kubicki@eh.doe.gov**)*

The DOE Fire Safety Committee has just completed development of an Implementation Plan for National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72, "National Fire Alarm Code," with the goal of liberalizing (reducing) the inspection, testing and maintenance (IT&M) frequencies of some fire alarm/signalling system components. This follows a similar effort by the Committee for NFPA Standard 25, "Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems." (A copy of this plan can be found on the DOE Fire Protection Web Site at URL **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/fire/**.

The Committee hopes to induce sites to adopt these revised frequencies to reduce costs, while maintaining system reliability. Data collected over a period of years from the Hanford, INEEL and Oak Ridge sites for water-based systems confirms that a prudent reduction of (IT&M) frequencies will achieve significant cost reductions with no adverse consequences on system reliability. Note that the Committee recommends no alteration in the program for the Department's nuclear facilities. A final version of the NFPA 72 Implementation Plan is expected to be published in September.

For additional information, please contact Dennis Kubicki, 301-903-4794, **dennis.kubicki@eh.doe.gov**.

DOE Metrology Committee Enhances Web Site

*By: Don Ragland, Sandia National Laboratories-Albuquerque (SNLA) (505-845-9623, **dragla@sandia.gov**)*

The Web site of the DOE Metrology Committee has a new address. The Home Page now resides at: **http://www.sandia.gov/metrology/mchome.html**. Please change your bookmarks and the addresses for any sub-directories you might have bookmarked under the former URL.

The DOE Metrology Committee (Committee) is installing on its Web site an interactive Calibration Capabilities Matrix designed to offer DOE customers a method for finding a DOE laboratory that can assist them with metrology calibration needs. The Matrix is expected to be operational by early October 1999. Originally based on a particular set of calibration capabilities suggested by Dick Pettit, Manager of the Primary Standards Laboratory at SNL/A, the Matrix quickly grew into a more comprehensive mixture that reflects abilities across the DOE laboratory complex.

The Committee sent all the DOE labs an invitation to participate in the Matrix along with a request to list their facility's metrological calibration capabilities. The results were then developed by the Committee into a matrix that cross-references capabilities with applicable DOE labs.

Visitors to the Matrix will initially encounter a list of general calibration "Quantities" from which to select. Clicking on their choice takes them to a location in the matrix that breaks down their chosen general Quantity into specific areas and, where appropriate, ranges of calibration. The visitor chooses an area (and range), then selects an applicable DOE lab's acronym from an interactive list.

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Savannah River Targets Cost Savings… (Continued from Page 1)

for review. The technical committees then deleted all information in existing WSRC site standards or guides that was available in national codes and standards. This task resulted in reducing the 700 WSRC site standards and guides to approximately 12 site standards and 64 guides.

The new WSRC site standards now contain information that is either unique to SRS or a selected standard method from national codes and standards where multiple choices are available. The use of WSRC standards are mandatory for design input/output documents and takes precedence over national codes and standards. The WSRC guides are based on best engineering practices and include installation information for work performed at SRS. Guides are not mandatory unless specified as requirements in the design input/output documents.

The Savannah River Site Maintains a "Living" Standards Program

Site standards and guides at SRS are part of a *living* site standards program. To keep the program current, the site standards and guides are reviewed periodically by both the technical committees and ESB. Existing site standards and guides are revised or deleted when appropriate national codes and standards are developed. New site standards and guides are developed when standards information is required by the site and cannot be found in national codes and standards.

An example of our living site standards program is the implementation of ISA S84.01, "Application of Safety Instrumented Systems for the Process Industry." Our Instrument Technical Committee reviewed the application of ISA S84.01 and found that there is not a one-to-one correspondence between the standard and its intended use at SRS. To clarify its use and to make those applicable portions of ISA S84.01 a requirement, a site standard was recommended and is in development.

Participation in National Standards Development is Vital

Our memberships in national committees are essential to influence development of or revision to national codes and standards to reflect SRS needs. A good example of this is supplying SRS process system and component checklists for incorporation in an "ANSI Inspection Planning Guidance Standard for Post Construction Pressure Containing Equipment" (ANSI endorsement pending). These checklists were developed as part of the Implementation of Structural Integrity Programs at the Replacement Tritium Facility (RTF) and the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). SRS has the master copy of the standard, which is ready for the ASME consensus Codes and Standards approval process. The standard has global interest with anticipated use in virtually all industries operating pressure retaining equipment.

You may stop receiving *The Standards Forum* because of unreported changes in the mailing address such as changes in local Mail Stop codes. *Please notify us of <u>any</u> change in your mail address.*
—The Standards Forum

DOE/ISM Feedback and Improvement… (Continued from Page 1)

- Electing
- Digesting
- Communicating
- Responding.

Additionally, Frank McCoy presented his perspective on what it "takes" to implement F&I:

- Common expectations—the complex has to agree upon the identification and resolving of safety issues.
- Effective customer - supplier relationships.
- Effective contractor self-assessment program.
- Oversight staff credibility…meaning technical capability as well as ownership has to be displayed.
- "Feedback and Improvement" implies "continuous improvement"…this is a closed loop system. One has to communicate what one has learned.

Safeguards and Security Session Offers F&I Insight

While in attendance at the "F&I in Safeguards and Security" breakout session, four basic yet powerful points were made:

- A corrective action process needs to be in place; in other words, "you have to fix what you have found." The "culture" of the organization has to understand this...management has to support the effort.
- One has to understand what is trying to be fixed.
- Prioritization has to take place…in other words, a "graded approach" should be used (you don't want to do a root cause analysis on everything!).
- And finally, once something is "fixed," how do you know it?

Senior Management Perspectives on F&I

During the session "Senior Management Perspectives on F&I," comments that pointed to the direct involvement of managers and workers in F&I were expressed. Specifically, you not only want their (the workers') involvement…but a commitment must exist that says you (management) will act on their input.

And lastly, during the "Contractor Independent Assessment" session, Greg Weatherby of Lockheed Martin (Idaho) expressed the following:

- Oversight groups should be consolidated and aligned to one goal.
- Information should easily be moved through the system…no vacuums.
- Business procedures should remain consistent…let your customer know what you are doing and how you are doing it.
- Focus on "What's broken?"
- Develop reports that are actionable.
- Coordinate findings and create a closed loop system.

In conclusion, one overriding message emerged from this workshop—safety, quality, and environmental aspects should be built into the fabric of the work, all of which fall (or should fall) under an integrated (safety) management system.

Standards Actions

DOE Technical Standards Projects Initiated

The following DOE Technical Standards projects were recently initiated. If you have any questions or are interested in participating in the development of these standards, please contact the persons listed below.

- *Fire Protection Functional Qualifications*, Project Number TRNG-0011; M. Norman Schwartz, EH-31; 301-903-2996, FAX 301-903-2996; **Norm.Schwartz@eh.doe.gov**.
- *Guidelines for Chemical Management Programs*, Project Number SAFT-0073; George Schlossnagle, EH-52; 301-903-9418, FAX: 301-903-8817; **George.Schlossnagle @hq.doe.gov**.

DOE Documents Recently Published

The following DOE documents were recently published:

- DOE-STD-1066-99, *Fire Protection Design Criteria*, July 1999 (Superseding DOE-STD-1066-97). Note: page 38 in the printed copy of this document is blank due to a printer's error. A new printing will be distributed that corrects this. In the interim, the complete copy is available on the TSP Web Site at URL **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/**.
- DOE-STD-1098-99, *Radiological Control*, July 1999.

DOE employees and DOE contractors may obtain copies from the ES&H Technical Information Services, U.S. Department of Energy; telephone 1-800-473-4375 or FAX 301-903-9823.

Subcontractors and the general public may obtain copies from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Technology Administration, National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161; telephone 1-800-553-6847 or FAX 703-605-6900.

Copies of DOE Technical Standards (i.e., DOE Standards, Specifications, Handbooks, and Technical Standards Lists) are also available on the Internet at the following URL: **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/**.

Non-Government Standards

American National Standards Institute

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) publishes coordination activities of non-Government standards (NGS) biweekly in *ANSI Standards Action.* Please note that distribution of *ANSI Standards Action* is normally made only to individual members of ANSI or in group mailings to site members of ANSI. For information on site membership, ask your local ANSI contact. For information on individual or group ANSI membership, call Susan Bose at 212-642-4948, e-mail **sbose@ansi.org**. For further information on distribution policies of ANSI publications, call the ANSI customer service manager at 212-642-4979.

Printed copies of published non-Government standards listed in this section may be obtained from Global Engineering Documents, 15 Inverness Way East, Englewood, Colorado, 80112, 800-854-7179, FAX 303-397-2740, **global@ihs.com**, **http://global.ihs.com**. Electronic delivery of selected documents is available through ANSI as URL **http://webstore .ansi.org**. Copies of the listed draft standards and the procedure for commenting on the same may be obtained by contacting the standards developing organization.

Technical Standards Program

Document Status as of 8/31/99

In Conversion	In Preparation	Out for Comment	Published in Past 30 Days
4	46	16	2

Total in process = 62

The following listings are extracted from *ANSI Standards Action* and are representative of NGS development activities that may be relevant to DOE operations. Refer to *ANSI Standards Action* (see the ANSI Web site, **http://www.ansi.org**) for a complete listing of changes and new publications, standards developing organizations, and additional information about submitting comments. Additional information on ANSI activities and available non-Government standards can also be found on the ANSI Web site or through the National Standards System Network (**http://www.nssn.org**).

The following American National Standards are currently in coordination:

- A1264.2, *Provision of Slip Resistance on Walking/Working Surfaces* (new standard); comments due September 28, 1999.
- API 1104, *Welding of Pipelines and Related Facilities* (revision of ANSI/API 1104-1995); comments due September 28, 1999.
- ASHRAE Addenda 62h, *Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality* (supplement to ANSI/ASHRAE 62-1989); comments due September 28, 1999.
- ASHRAE 33, *Methods of Testing Forced Circulation Air Cooling and Air Heating Coils* (new standard); comments due September 28, 1999.
- ASME B89.7.2, *Dimensional Measurement Planning* (new standard); comments due September 28, 1999.
- ASTM E1702, *Practice for Dosimetry in a Gamma Irradiation Facility for Radiation Processing* (new standard); comments due September 28, 1999.
- AWS D1.1-2000, *Structural Welding Code - Steel* (revision of ANSI/AWS D1.1-98); comments due September 28, 1999.

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Standards Actions (Continued from Page 7)

- C63.12, *Electromagnetic Compatibility Limits - Recommended Practice* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- EIA SP-4153-A (if approved, to be published as ANSI/EIA 364-101), *Attenuation Test Procedure for Electrical Connectors, Sockets and Cable Assemblies or Interconnection Systems* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- HI 9.6.4-1999, *Centrifugal and Vertical Pumps for Vibration Measurement and Allowable Values* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- HI 9.6.5-1999, *Centrifugal and Vertical Pumps for Condition Monitoring* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE 845-1999, *Guide for the Evaluation of Human-System Performance in Nuclear Power Generating Stations* (revision of ANSI/IEEE 845-1988); comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE 1139-1999, *Standard Definitions of Physical Quantities for Fundamental Frequency and Time Metrology - Random Instabilities* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE 1267-1999, *Trial Use Guide for Development of Specifications for Turnkey Substations Projects* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE 1313.2-1999, *Guide for the Application of Insulation Coordination* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE 2000-1999, *Recommended Practice for Information Technology - Year 2000 Test Methods* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE C37.04-1999, *Standard Rating Structure for AC High-Voltage Circuit Breakers Rated on a Symmetrical Current Basis* [revision of ANSI/IEEE C37.04-1979 (R1989)], comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE C37.083, *Guide for Synthetic Capacitive Switching Tests of AC High-Voltage Circuit Breakers* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE C37.72-1999, *Standard for Manually-Operated Dead-Front Padmounted Switchgear with Load/Interrupting Switches and Separable Connectors for Alternating-Current Systems* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE C57.12.90-1999, *Standard Test Code for Liquid-Immersed Distribution, Power, and Regulating Transformers* (revision of ANSI/IEEE C57.12-90-1993); comments due October 12, 1999.
- IEEE C63.011, *Limits and Methods of Measurement of Radio Disturbance Characteristics of Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) Radio-Frequency Equipment* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- ISA RP67.04.02, *Methodologies for the Determination of Setpoints for Nuclear Safety-Related Instrumentation* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- MH29.2, *Safety Requirements for Industrial Filters* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- NEMA 250, *Enclosures for Electrical Equipment (1000 Volts Maximum)* (revision of ANSI/NEMA 250-1991); comments due September 28, 1999.
- NSF 53 (i13, i24, i25), *Drinking Water Treatment Units - Health Effects* (revision of ANSI/NSF 53-1998); comments due September 28, 1999.
- UL 340, *Standard for Safety for Tests for Comparative Flammability of Liquids* (new standard); comments due October 12, 1999.
- Z129.1-1994, *Hazardous Industrial Chemicals - Precautionary Labeling* (revision of ANSI Z129.1-1994); comments due October 12, 1999.
- Z245.30, *Equipment Technology and Operations for Wastes and Recyclable Materials - Waste Containers - Safety Requirements* (revision of ANSI Z245.30-1994); comments due October 12, 1999.
- Z245.60, *Equipment Technology and Operations for Wastes and Recyclable Materials - Waste Containers - Compatibility Dimensions* (revision of ANSI Z245.60-1996); comments due October 12, 1999.

The following international standards are currently in coordination (comment due dates follow each entry)**:**

- 13/1194/FDIS, IEC 62056-31, Ed 1: *Electricity metering - Data exchange for meter reading, tariff and load control - Part 31: Use of local area networks with twisted pair* - September 1, 1999.
- 16/382/FDIS, IEC 60445: *Basic and safety principles for man-machine interface, marking and identification - Identification of equipment terminals and of terminations of certain designated conductors, including general rules for an alphanumeric system* - September 1, 1999.
- 22B/126/FDIS, IEC 60146-2: *Semiconductor converters - Part 2: Self-commutated semiconductor converters including direct d.c. converters* - September 15, 1999.
- 26/174/FDIS, IEC 60974-7: *Arc welding equipment - Part 7: Torches* - September 1, 1999.
- 31/294/FDIS, IEC 62013-1: *Caplights for use in mines susceptible to firedamp - Part 1: General requirements - Construction and testing in relation to the risk of explosion* - September 1, 1999.
- 45/464/FDIS, Draft IEC 60692, Ed 2: *Nuclear instrumentation - Density gauges utilizing ionizing radiation - Definitions and test methods* - September 15, 1999.
- 45A/360/FDIS, Draft IEC 61502, Ed 1: *Nuclear power plants - Pressurized water reactors - Vibration monitoring of internal structures* - August 15, 1999.
- 45A/362/FDIS, Draft IEC 62117, Ed 1: *Nuclear reactor instrumentation - Pressurized light water reactors (PWR) - Monitoring adequate cooling within the core during cold shutdown* - September 15, 1999.
- 77A/287/FDIS, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 4-28: Testing and measurement techniques - Variation of power frequency, immunity test* - September 15, 1999.
- 77C/77/FDIS, IEC 61000-2-11: *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 2-11: Environment - Classification of HEMP environments* - September 1, 1999.
- 82/229/FDIS, Draft IEC 61683, Ed 1: *Photovoltaic systems - Power conditioners - Procedure for measuring efficiency* - September 15, 1999.
- 89/374/FDIS, IEC 60695-1-1, Ed 3: *Fire hazard testing - Part 1-1: Guidance for assessing the fire hazard of electrotechnical products - General guidelines* - September 15, 1999.
- 96/132/FDIS, Draft IEC 61558-2-3, Ed 1: *Safety of power transformers, power supply units and similar devices - Parts 2-3: Particular requirements for ignition transformers for gas and oil burners* - September 1, 1999.

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- EN 1020:1997/prA1, *Non-domestic gas-fired forced convection air heaters for space heating not exceeding a net heat input of 300 kW, incorporating a fan to assist transportation of combustion air and/or combustion products* - October 20, 1999.
- EN 50019:1994/pr AA:1999, *Electrical apparatus for potentially explosive atmospheres - Increased safety 'e'* - October 10, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 6974-6, *Natural gas - Determination of composition with definable uncertainty by gas chromatography - Part 6: Determination of hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and hydrocarbons up to C_8 using three capillary columns* - October 16, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 10427-1, *Petroleum and natural gas industries - Casing centralizers - Part 1: Specifications for bow-spring casing centralizers* - October 23, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 10692-1, *Connections for gas cylinder valves for ultra-high integrity service - Part 1: Outlet connections for single gases* - October 9, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 11338-2, *Stationary source emissions - Determination of gas and particle-phase polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons from stationary sources - Part 2: Sample preparation, clean-up and determination* - October 2, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 12790-1, *Radiation protection - Performance criteria for radiobioassay - Part 1: General principles* - October 23, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 13041, *Test conditions for numerically controlled horizontal turning machines and turning centers* - October 9, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 13571, *Fire hazard analysis - Life threatening components of fire* - October 9, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 13710, *Reciprocating positive displacement pumps for use in petroleum and natural gas industries - Technical specifications* - October 9, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 15080, *Nuclear facilities - Ventilation penetrations for shielded enclosures* - October 16, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 15011-2, *Health and safety in welding and allied processes - Laboratory method for sampling fume and gases generated by arc welding - Part 2: Determination of emission rates of gases, except ozone* - October 23, 1999.
- ISO/DIS 15188, *Project management guidelines for terminology standardization* - October 2, 1999.
- prEN 169 REVIEW, *Personal eye-protection - Filters for welding and related techniques - Transmittance requirements and recommended use* - November 10, 1999.
- prEN 12952-9, *Water-tube boilers and auxiliary installations - Part 9: Requirements for firing systems for pulverized solid fuel for the boiler* - November 3, 1999.
- prEN 12952-16, *Water-tube boilers and auxiliary installations - Part 16: Requirements for fluidized bed and grate firing systems solid fuels for the boiler* - October 21, 1999.
- prEN 13557, *Cranes - Controls and control stations* - October 20, 1999.
- prEN 13645, *Installations and equipment for liquefied natural gas - Design of onshore installations with a storage capacity between 5 t and 200 t* - November 17, 1999.
- prEN 13648-1, *Cryogenic vessels - Safety devices for protection against excessive pressure - Part 1: Safety valves for cryogenic service* - November 3, 1999.
- prEN 13790, *Thermal performance of buildings - Calculation of energy use for heating* (ISO/DIS 13790:1999) - September 25, 1999.
- prEN 50243, *Outdoor bushings for 24kV and 36 kV and for 5 kA and 8 kA, for liquid filled transformers* - October 10, 1999.
- prEN ISO 3452-2, *Non-destructive testing - Penetrant testing - Part 2: Testing of penetrant materials* (ISO/FDIS 3452-2:1999) (for information).
- prEN ISO 3457 REVIEW, *Earth-moving machinery - Guards - Definitions and requirements* (ISO/DIS 3457:1999) - October 3, 1999.
- prEN ISO 4063 REVIEW, *Welding and allied processes - Nomenclature of processes and reference numbers* (ISO 4063:1998) - October 20, 1999.
- prEN ISO 5199 REVIEW, *Technical specifications for centrifugal pumps - Class II* (ISO/DIS 5199:1999) - October 3, 1999.
- prEN ISO 9934, *Non destructive testing - Magnetic particle testing - Part 2: Detection media* - October 3, 1999.
- prEN ISO 9488, *Solar energy - Vocabulary* (ISO/FDIS 9488:1999) (for information).
- prEN ISO 10432, *Petroleum and natural gas industries - Subsurface safety valve equipment* (ISO/FDIS 10432:1999) (for information).
- prEN ISO 16330, *Reciprocating positive displacement pumps - Technical requirements* (ISO/DIS 16330:1999) - October 10, 1999.
- prHD 630.2.1 S4, Part 2-1: *Supplementary requirements for fuses for use by authorized persons (fuses mainly for industrial application - Sections I to V: Examples of types of standardized fuses* (IEC 60269-2-1:1998, modified) - October 10, 1999.

The following newly published international standards are available from ANSI:

- IEC 60364-4-442 Ed.1 2 b:1999, *Electrical installations of buildings - Part 4: Protection for safety - Chapter 44: Protection against overvoltages - Section 442: Protection of low-voltage installations against temporary overvoltages and faults between high-voltage systems and earth.*
- IEC 61231 TR2 Ed.2 0 b:1999, *International lamp coding system (ILCOS).*
- IEC 61241-1-1 Ed.2 0 en:1999, *Electrical apparatus for use in the presence of combustible dust - Part 1-1: Electrical apparatus protected by enclosures and surface temperature limitation - Specification for apparatus.*
- IEC 61587-1 Ed 10 b:1999, *Mechanical structures for electronic equipment - Tests for IEC 60917 and IEC 60297 - Part 1: Climatic, mechanical tests and safety aspects for cabinets, racks, subracks and chassis.*

American Society for Testing and Materials

Standards activities of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) are published monthly in ASTM *Standardization News.* Orders for subscriptions or single copies of ASTM *Standardization News* may be submitted to ASTM, Subscription Dept.-SN, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428-2959. For information regarding ASTM membership, contact the Membership Services Department at 610-832-9691 (FAX 610-832-9667). ASTM publications may be ordered from the ASTM Customer

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Services Department at 610-832-9585 (FAX 610-832-9555). Comments on listed draft standards may be submitted by contacting the ASTM Standards Coordination Department at the above address. Questions may be addressed to the Technical Committee Operations Division at 610-832-9672 (FAX 610-832-9666). Additional information on ASTM activities is available on the ASTM Web site (**http://www.astm.org**). The following listings are extracted from ASTM *Standardization News* and are representative of NGS development activities that may be relevant to DOE operations.

The following ASTM standards are currently in coordination: (the due date for all items is September 10, 1999).

- New Standard, *Practice for Bias Testing a Mechanical Coal Sampling System* (Ref. Z4864Z).
- New Standard, *Guide for Risk-Based Corrective Action* (Ref. Z5210Z).
- New Standard, *Practice for Assessment of Asbestos-Containing Building Materials in Connection with Real Estate Transactions* (Ref. Z5720Z).
- New Standard, *Test Method for Wipe Sampling of Surfaces, Indirect Preparation and Analysis for Asbestos Structure Number Concentration by Transmission Electron Microscopy* (Ref. Z6261Z).
- New Standard, *Test Method for Elemental Oxidised, Particle-Bound and Total Mercury in Flue Gas Generated from Coal-Fired Stationary Sources (The Ontario Hydro Method)* (Ref. Z6590Z).
- New Standard, *Method for Temperature Calibration of Dielectric Analyzers* (Ref. Z6703Z).
- New Standard, *Guide for Statistical Evaluation of Atmospheric Dispersion Models* (Ref. Z6849Z).
- New Standard, *Practice for Writing a Terminology Management Policy* (Ref. Z6937Z).
- New Standard, *Test Methods for Cyclic (Reversed) Load Test for Shear Resistance of Framed Walls for Buildings* (Ref. Z7247Z).
- New Standard, *Guide to the Evaluation of Measurements Made by On-Line Coal Analyzers* (Ref. Z7477Z).
- New Standard, *Guide for Characterization of Non-Hazardous Waste Materials Used as Raw Materials in the Manufacture of Cement* (Ref. Z7666Z).
- New Standard, *Test Method for Hygroscopic Sorption Isotherms of Porous Building Materials* (Ref. Z7789Z).
- A 20/A 20M-99a, *Specification for General Requirements for Steel Plates for Pressure Vessels* (revised standard).
- A 185-97, *Specification for Steel Welded Wire Fabric, Plain, for Concrete Reinforcement.*
- A 479/A 479M-98, *Specification for Stainless Steel Bars and Shapes for Use in Boilers and Other Pressure Vessels.*
- C 634-99, *Terminology Relating to Environmental Acoustics* (revised standard).
- C 1393, *Specification for Perpendicularly Oriented Mineral Fiber Roll and Sheet Thermal Insulation for Pipes and Tanks* (new standard).
- F 1506-98, *Performance Specification for Textile Materials for Wearing Apparel for Use by Electrical Workers Exposed to Momentary Electric Arc and Related Thermal Hazards* (revised standard).

The following newly published standards are available from ASTM:

- C 168-97, *Terminology Relating to Thermal Insulating Materials* (revised standard).
- C 692-97, *Test Method for Evaluating the Influence of Thermal Insulations on External Stress Corrosion Cracking Tendency of Austenitic Stainless Steel* (revised standard).
- C 1401-98, *Guide for Structural Sealant Glazing* (new standard).
- D 6381-99, *Test Method for Measurement of Asphalt Shingle Tab Mechanical Uplift Resistance* (new standard).
- D 6384-99a, *Terminology Relating to Biodegradability and Ecotoxicity of Lubricants* (new standard).
- E 1995-98, *Test Method for Measurement of Smoke Obscuration using a Conical Radiant Source in a Single Closed Chamber, with the Test Specimen Oriented Horizontally* (new standard).
- PS 118-99, *Test Method for Water Extractable Chloride in Aggregate (Soxhlet Method)* (new standard).

American National Standards Projects Initiated

The following is a list of proposed new American National Standards or revisions to existing American National Standards submitted to ANSI by accredited standards developers. DOE employees or contractors interested in participating in these activities should contact the appropriate standards developing organization. DOE-TSL-4 lists the DOE representatives on NGS committees. If no DOE representative is listed, contact the TSPO for information on participating in NGS activities.

National Electrical Contractors Association
Office: 3 Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 1100
Bethesda, MD 20814
Fax: 301-215-4500
Contact: H. Brooke Stauffer, **brooke@necanet.org**

- NECA 402, *Recommended Practice for Installing and Maintaining Motor Control Centers* (new standard).
- NECA/EGSA 404, *Recommended Practice for Installing Generator Sets* (new standard).

Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.
Office: 333 Pfingsten Road
Northbrook, IL 60062-2096
Fax: 847-509-6217
Contact: Patricia Bates, **batesp@ul.com**

- UL 1316, *Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Plastic Underground Storage Tanks for Petroleum Products* (revision of ANSI/UL 1316-1993).

Comments, Questions, and Addresses

Comments: If you have any questions or comments, please contact Rick Serbu, EH-31, Manager, DOE Technical Standards Program Office (TSPO), 301-903-2856, FAX 301-903-6172, e-mail **Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov**.

Addresses: To update the distribution list for this publication, please contact Marty Marchbanks, ORNL, 423-241-3658, FAX 423-574-0382, e-mail **mmf@ornl.gov**.

Technical Standards Activities: The TSPO would like to be kept informed of the status of technical standards that are being prepared or coordinated for DOE. Please provide this information to the TSPO at 423-574-7886, e-mail **lj8@ornl.gov**.

'Push' Technology Provides 'Just-in-Time' Information to Promote Knowledge Sharing

The DOE Office of Environment, Safety and Health (EH) has made available a new tool to help implement Integrated Safety Management (ISM) across its complex. Known as the Environment, Safety and Health Information Portal, this Web-based technology will provide a mechanism to share knowledge, report progress, and offer feedback for further improvements.

The Portal provides the DOE community with a single point of access to comprehensive and diverse information resources critical to the success of ISM. This information includes the Department's lessons learned, occurrence reports, performance reports, safety and health bulletins, standards, policy and guidance documents, oversight and accident investigation reports, and site evaluations.

Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels said, "Over time, we expect that this Portal will be the focal point for all the department's environment, safety and health information. Used effectively, it could provide on-line training, alternatives to 'on-site' technical assistance and even reduce government travel. The Portal also puts us in a position to improve reporting and analysis across the DOE complex."

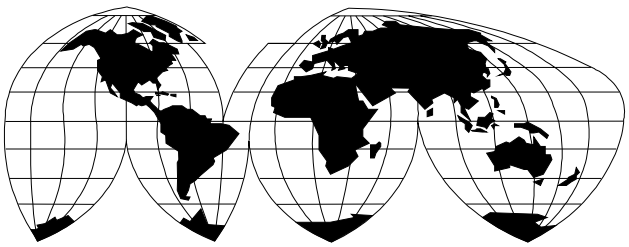
The Portal creates a "knowledge-sharing" environment where users can interactively participate in forums, report on corrective actions being taken to resolve safety issues and register for ES&H training. In addition users can check calendars for upcoming events related to ISM and consult electronic locators to identify available departmental experts in the many ES&H disciplines and topic areas. This feature, called the Knowledge Management Tool, helps users to more fully benefit from the collective knowledge of the complex by placing powerful collaborative and research-oriented tools at their fingertips.

Another feature of the Portal is the "My ES&H Page", which allows registered users to create customized profiles based on their specific needs for information and to have current news, reports, data and other pertinent information "pushed" from across the DOE complex to their desktops. Profile contents are automatically updated daily with information drawn from a wide variety of internal and other governmental and public sources. The Knowledge Management Tool and "My ES&H Page" features are limited to DOE Federal and contractor workers.

The Portal will also enhance public access to a broad scope of ES&H information published by such offices as the Office of Environment, Safety and Health and the Council on Environmental Quality. A site called "DOE and the Community" provides outreach information, a calendar of events, community resources, and contact lists for stakeholders and other interested members of the public who want to learn more about the Department's community outreach in the ES&H area. A dedicated area called the Integrated Safety Management Resource Center provides access to facts, guidance, events, and other information on ISM and its implementation across the DOE complex.

Security is an integral part of the Portal's architecture. Combining encryption and authentication technologies where necessary, the Portal makes it possible for authorized DOE staff and contractors to have a single point of entry for controlled access information sources. The Portal can be accessed at: **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/portal**.

The World of Standards



NEWS BRIEFS

Commerce Secretary William M. Daley Announces Intention to Close National Technical Information Service

Washington, D.C.—Commerce Secretary William M. Daley today announced his intention to work with Congress to close the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) at the Department of Commerce while preserving public access to scientific and technical reports. After extensive review and analysis it was determined that the core function of NTIS, providing government information for a fee, is no longer needed in this day of advanced electronic technology. Established in 1950, NTIS' core business—the sale of government documents in microfiche and on paper—is rapidly becoming less of the necessity it was as agencies and groups have begun to post their reports on the Internet for free. For example, the Commerce Department recently released a report called, "The Emerging Digital Economy II." This report can be downloaded from the Department of Commerce Web site for free rather than for a $27 fee through NTIS. These changes in the information marketplace have made obsolete the need for NTIS to serve as a clearinghouse and, thus have in turn made it increasingly difficult for NTIS to maintain its operation on a self-sustaining basis, as established by Congress.

NTIS

NTIS' sales have dramatically declined over the last six years with the advent of the personal computer and increased use of the Internet. In fact, NTIS' core clearinghouse business has not operated at a profit since FY 1993. In its March 1999 Semiannual Report to the Congress, Commerce's Office of Inspector General concluded that "even with significant efforts to improve its profitability, NTIS can no longer generate sufficient

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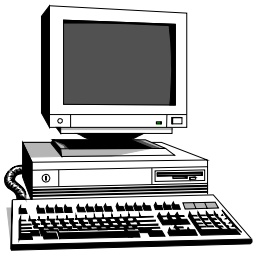
revenue to remain self-supporting." If this proposal is not implemented, NTIS will be in danger of going bankrupt.

"This was a tough decision to make, but sound management dictates that we cut our losses and recognize the technologically advanced environment we live in," said Secretary Daley. "This is the right thing to do and the best thing for the American taxpayer."

The Commerce Department next month will send to Congress proposed legislation closing NTIS and shifting its paper, microfiche, digital archives and bibliographic database to the Library of Congress. In addition, Commerce will work to ensure that government technical and business information provided by government agencies remains available to the public for long periods of time. The American people could continue to find these technical reports through search engines that currently exist (at, for example, the Library of Congress).

If Congress approves this proposal, Secretary Daley has instructed his staff to work closely with the over 250 employees of NTIS to assist them with job placement within the Department. The Secretary also has sent a letter to Office of Personnel Director, Janice Lachance, requesting the Office of Personnel Management's assistance with both the placement and retraining of NTIS employees.

Fact sheets with additional information are available on the Commerce Department's Web site at **www.doc.gov** or for a fax call the press office at 202-482-4883.



Sandia Non-Government Standards Activities Database

Submitted by: Don Ragland, Sandia National Laboratories-Albuquerque (SNL/A), (505-845-9623, ***dragla@sandia.gov****).*

The Technical Standards Program (TSP) at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) in Albuquerque, New Mexico is re-structuring its Non-Governmental Standards Activities (NGSA) database. The new database will have Boolean search capabilities that should greatly enhance a SNL employee (AKA "Sandian") in identifying individual specialties and expertise in standards writing activities.

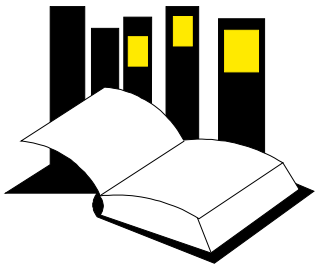
The new database will be an integral part of the SNL/TSP internal Web site. It will allow visitors to conduct searches in all areas of the NGSA database. According to Bob Wayland, TSP Manager at Sandia, this new capability means that Sandians will have a ready resource for identifying specialists in technical fields.

"Sandia line personnel whose work is impacted by a standard will have a simple method for identifying individuals who can present their needs to technical standards writing committees," said Wayland.

Wayland stated further that the search engine being developed by his organization will be available for other DOE sites.

For further information about the database and the search engine, contact Bob Wayland (SNL/A), 505-845-9771, **jrwayla@sanida.gov**.

Global Engineering Documents and the American National Standards Institute Sign Agreement for Distribution of Hardcopy Standards



On June 18, 1999, Global Engineering Documents (Global), an IHS Group Company, and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), administrator of the U.S. voluntary consensus standards system, announced a five-year agreement for Global to provide order fulfillment and customer service for hardcopy standards and publications on ANSI's behalf.

Under this agreement, which began July 1, 1999, Global became ANSI's primary distribution source for hardcopy standards and technical documents. These include standards published by ANSI, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and other U.S., international and non-U.S. national standards developing organizations. ANSI will expand its services for the electronic delivery of standards through the Electronic Standards Store (**http://webstore.ansi.org**) and networking site license agreements.

Requests for hardcopy versions of standards that would normally have been directed to ANSI's customer service department should be directed to:

> Global Engineering Documents, Phone: 800-854-7179 or 303-397-7956; FAX: 303-397-2740; e-mail: **global@ihs.com**, **http://global.ihs.com**.

FAQs On The Web

You now have access to a series of questions most often asked of the Technical Standards Program (TSP). The TSP Web Site (**http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/index.html**) now lists approximately twenty questions on subjects such as TSP personnel identification, TSP definitions, the location of "official" DOE Technical Standards, guidance in developing DOE Technical Standards, Topical Committees, and Work Smart Standards sets. Click on "News/Contacts" on the Home Page, then on "FAQ" in the left-hand frame, and Frequently Asked Questions in the right-hand frame to get a PDF list of the questions.

Your Link To Conformity Assessment / Standards

NIST has initiated development of a centralized information source for conformity assessment at URL **http://ts.nist.gov/**

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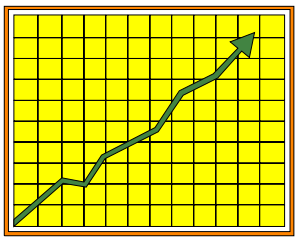
ts/htdocs/210/nttaa/ca.htm. This information source includes a description of conformity assessment and the vital link to standards for government and non-Government interests in domestic and foreign interests. Web links to a number of related conformity assessment and standards activities are provided.

Proposed Revision of Fall Protection

On November 25, 1986, OSHA proposed to revise their fall protection standard. The rulemaking record, developed over a nine-year period, resulted in a more performance-oriented rule, "Standards for Fall Protection in the Construction Industry," that was issued on August 4, 1994 (published in volume 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 1926, subpart M, and in volume 59 of the Federal Register, beginning on page 40,672). The rule is posted on OSHA's Web site at **www.osha.gov**. In general, the rule requires that an employee exposed to a fall hazard of six feet or more must be protected by equipment that prevents or arrests the fall. In the Federal Register for July 14, 1999, OSHA requested comments and information on fall protection for workers engaged in certain construction activities currently covered by OSHA's "Standards for Fall Protection in the Construction Industry." Since publication of the standard, OSHA has received numerous requests for interpretations including claims that compliance with the rule is sometimes infeasible in certain activities. OSHA is asking the public for information and data on fall protection for employees that support claims of infeasibility and that explain in detail why the rule cannot be complied with in certain circumstances, what fall protection methods could be used to protect workers engaged in the contested activities and the degree of protection the alternate methods would provide. Such proposals should be supported by data demonstrating that the current rule is not feasible and include data demonstrating the effectiveness of any alternative approaches suggested. Respondents should also provide any information on the costs of alternative approaches and the reduction in injuries likely to be experienced if alternatives were to be adopted. For further details, refer to the full text of the announcement in the Federal Register, July 14, 1999, (Volume 64, Number 134) Proposed Rules, Page 38077-38086. This can be reached via the Web at **http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html** (1. Select the browse feature, 2. Select the HTML version of the Table of Contents, 3. Scroll down to OSHA.)

Important Notice: The TSP intends to go "paperless" with the distribution of *The Standards Forum* and *Standards Actions* near the end of this calendar year! Printed copy distribution will end and distribution will be solely through the TSP Web Site (http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/). We plan to provide notification of new monthly and quarterly publications through a banner or "What's New" notice on the TSP Web Site. We will also publish a notice on the new EH Portal - perhaps incorporating push technology to send you a copy via your "customized" personal page. At present, we do not intend to send broad e-mail notices, but we will investigate using DOE Web features such as DOECAST. We want to reach all of our 2,000 readers (DOE and non-DOE) currently on direct distribution, as well as the many others who receive locally-circulated copies of these documents. Contact Jeff Feit at 301-903-3927 (jeffrey.feit@eh.doe.gov) or Rick Serbu at 301-903-2856 (richard.serbu@eh.doe.gov) if you have suggestions or "lessons learned."

GAO Report on DOE Performance-Based Contract Process



The Government Accounting Office has issued report number GAO/RCED-99-141 entitled "National Laboratories - DOE Needs to Assess the Impact of Using Performance-Based Contracts." The goals, features, and benefits of the performance-based contracting approach are discussed including the role of performance measures to evaluate a contractor's progress toward meeting its objectives. The report concludes that the practice of performance-based contracting begun in 1994 is still in a state of transition with a wide variance in the number of performance measures and the types of fees negotiated. GAO recommends that DOE take steps to evaluate the costs and benefits of its performance-based contracting in order to ensure that the fees being paid are justified. A summary of the report may be viewed at URL **http://www.gao.gov/monthly.list/june99/jun996.htm**.

On-line Availability of the 1998 Revision of OMB Circular A-119

The location of much-used documents on the Web can sometimes change unexpectedly. It was recently pointed out to *The Standards Forum* that an e-mail address we previously announced as a source for OMB Circular A-119, *Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities* is no longer valid. Therefore, be advised that the latest version of the document is now available at URL **http://www.astm.org/NEWS/omba119.html**, or through a link from the TSP Web Site at URL **http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/**.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) revised Circular A-119 (now dated February 10, 1998) in order to make the terminology of the Circular consistent with the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995, to issue guidance to the agencies on making their reports to OMB, to direct the Secretary of Commerce to issue policy guidance for conformity assessment, and to make changes for clarity.

Topical Committee Report (Continued from Page 5)

Clicking on an acronym will take the visitor either to that facility's laboratory Web page or to an e-mail message screen, pre-addressed to a designated Metrology Point of Contact for that facility.

The list of "Quantities" include: Chemical, Dimensional, Electrical (AC & DC), Flow, Gas Leaks, Gear Artifacts & Standards, Hardness, Humidity, Microwave / RF, Nuclear Material Inventory Verification Measurements, Optics, Pressure, Radiation, Shock, Sound Level, Sound Velocity, Specific Gravity, Temperature, Time of Day, and Vibration.

The DOE Metrology Calibration Capabilities Matrix is one of several projects in development by the Committee in its continuing efforts to promote sharing of metrology information, resources and practices.

The Matrix will be found at: **http://www.sandia.gov/metrology/mchome.html** - click on "Lab Capabilities."

Questions/Comments? Contact: Bob Wayland at: 505-845-9771 or **jrwayla@sandia.gov**.

Performance-Based Management Special Interest Group

The Performance-Based Management SIG Announces TV Course

By: Will Artley, Coordinator, Performance-Based Management SIG, 901-373-7493, FAX 901-373-4008, **artleyw@orau.gov**.

The DOE Office of Performance Excellence & Nonproliferation and National Security Institute will be presenting an Interactive Television Course "Taking the Mystery Out of Process Improvement " on Sept. 15, 1999. This half-day, interactive television workshop will take the mystery out of using process improvement (PI) tools. Presenters will give general guidelines about the tools and when and how to use them as job aids. For more information, check out the NNSI Web site at: **http://www.nnsi.doe.gov/Announce/pi_itv.html**.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Question: DOE facilities and sites use (adopt) a number of voluntary consensus standards (VCSs) to accomplish the many missions of the Department. If an adopted VCS is revised or an error is discovered in the standard, how are the facility/site engineers notified? If these engineers have individual memberships to the writing body (i.e., standards developing organization, SDO) for the VCS, they usually receive some form of notification from the SDO (bulletin, notification form, or errata sheet). However, organizations relying solely on commercial services for VCS information do not receive the SDO notifications. How does the DOE Technical Standards Program (TSP) deal with this issue?

Answer: Each month, the TSP compiles a listing of SDO actions being taken on VCSs that appear to be relevant to the missions and operations of the Department. These SDO actions are advertised to the TSP community in Standards Actions. However, being a decentralized program, the TSP continues to rely heavily upon our network of DOE and contractor subject matter experts that participate in the development of new/revised VCSs (see DOE-TSL-4, Directory of DOE and Contractor Personnel Involved in Non-Government Standards Activities) to be:

- aware of any problems with the VCSs assigned to their SDO,
- sensitive to the concern that others in the DOE community may be using the VCSs and, consequently, need to know about the problems, and
- knowledgeable on how to contact us (Technical Standards Program Office) about the problems and their implication to Department operations.

This is another reason to promote support for the Technical Standards Manager position in each DOE/contractor organization and the use of DOE topical committees.

Standards Forum

Editor ..... Marty Marchbanks

Distribution: If you would like to have your name added to (or removed from) the mailing list for this publication, or you need to make an address change, please notify Marty Marchbanks, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), 423-241-3658; FAX: 423-574-0382; e-mail: **mmf@ornl.gov**.

Comments: If you have any questions or comments please contact Rick Serbu, EH-31, 301-903-2856; e-mail: **Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov**. If you have any questions or comments on DOE standards projects, please call Don Williams, ORNL, 423-574-8710; e-mail: **williamsdljr@ornl.gov**.

Publication: ORNL and DOE's ES&H Technical Information Services publish *The Standards Forum* quarterly for the DOE Technical Standards Program.

Upcoming Meetings

September 12-16, 1999

2nd Topical Meeting of the American Nuclear Society Division of Decommissioning, Decontamination, and Reutilization

Theme: *D, D, & R of Commercial & Government Facilities*

Holiday Inn - Knoxville, Tennessee

This meeting will provide a broad forum for discussion of the field of nuclear facility decommissioning, decontamination, and reutilization of commercial and DOE facilities. The focus will be on regulatory issues, project management, innovative technologies, status of facilities in the D&D process, site and facility characterization, spent fuel storage, recycling materials, waste management, environmental controls, industrial health and safety, cost estimating, reutilization, electric utility deregulation, completed projects, and international programs.

For more information, check out the ANS meetings Web site at URL: **http://www.ans.org/meetings/**.

September 20-24, 1999

1999 World Standards Week

Theme: *Building on Standards*

Crystal City Marriott - Arlington, Virginia

World Standards Day is a celebration of the voluntary consensus standards system. A number of activities and events showcase the standards and conformity assessment participation of individuals from around the globe. The week's highlight will be the World Standards Day (WSD) exhibit, reception and dinner on Wednesday, September 22 at the Wyndham City Centre Hotel in Washington, D.C.

For more information, check URL: **http://web.ansi.org/rooms/room_5/**.

October 4-7, 1999

Integrating Fire Research Into Practice

Chicago, Illinois

Co-organized by: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building and Fire Research Laboratory (NIST/BFRL) and the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE).

A forum for recent advances in fire safety engineering applications through technical presentations, workshops, and case studies to stimulate the interaction between the fire research and fire safety engineering communities. There will be a tour of Underwriter Laboratories Fire Test Facility.

For more information, call 310-718-2910 or check the SFPE home page at URL **http://www.mindspring.com/~sfpe1/**.

October 17-20, 1999

Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Forum

Don CeSar Hotel - St. Petersburg, Flordia

In addition to the now-standard sessions on hot topics such as fire-induced circuit failures, NRC's development of a comprehensive fire regulatory guide, the National Fire Protection Association's draft standard on performance-based fire protection for nuclear plants, and fire risk studies, there will be sessions on the industry's attempt to develop fire protection performance indicators for inclusion in the NRC's new reactor oversight process and a report from Fort Calhoun on its experience with fire protection inspection as part of the reactor oversight process. International participation at the NEI forum is expected to include officials from France, Germany, and China.

For more information, contact NEI at 202-739-8000.

November 14-18, 1999

American Nuclear Society Winter Meeting

Long Beach Convention Center and Hyatt - Long Beach, California

This Nuclear Technology Expo will include two embedded topical meetings: (1) Electric Power Deregulation: Industry Update and (2) Nuclear Applications of Accelerator Technology (**http://www.engr.utk.edu/org/ans/AccApp99/**).

For more information, check the ANS Web site at URL **http://www.ans.org/meetings/** or contact Harold B. Ray, Executive Vice President—Generation, Southern California Edison Co., 626-302-1695, FAX 626-302-4737.

November 14-19, 1999

American Society of Mechanical Engineers Winter Annual Meeting (1999 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition)

Theme: *Engineering Innovations for Increased Productivity*

Opryland Hotel Convention Center - Nashville, Tennessee

For more information, see the ASME home page at URL **http://www.asme.org/**.

June 18-22, 2000

American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting

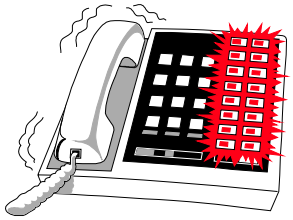
Town and Country Hotel - San Diego, California

Embedded International Topical Meeting - Advanced Reactor Safety

4th Embedded Topical Meeting - DOE Spent Nuclear Fuel and Fissile Material Management

For information on the call for papers, visit the ANS Web site at URL **http://www.ans.org/meetings/**.

Technical Standards Managers' Committee Telecon Meetings Prove to be a Valuable Source of Information



The Technical Standards Program Office strongly believes that in order to maintain an interactive and proactive Technical Standards Program (TSP), it is important to have at least two to three face-to-face Technical Standards Managers' Committee (TSMC) meetings a year. This has been an impossible schedule to maintain because of the continuing reductions in DOE/contractor travel budgets. Therefore, the TSMC developed an action item to look into the feasibility of using on-line conference services (phone and/or video) for TSMC meetings.

The first TSMC telephone conference call meeting was conducted on April 15, 1998. The calls are generally held the first Thursday of each month, and they have been very well received by the participants. About one hour in length, the telecons have been a valuable source of up-to-date information on DOE/TSP activities and provide an excellent forum for offering suggestions for improvements to the TSP.

Some recent items discussed include the following:

DOE Order and Guide for the TSP - Timely reports on the development of the Order and Guide (O 252.1, Technical Standards Program, and DOE G 252.1-1, Technical Standards Program Guide) have been a regular feature of the telecons. Publication of the Order and Guide, which feature the "plain language" format approach, is expected in the near future.

Strategic Plan Update - Development of the TSP Strategic Plan has also been followed by the telecon participants. Plans are currently underway for eventual placement of the updated plan on the TSP Web Site.

Federal Technical Standards Workshop 2000 - Regular reports have been made on this activity, which has emphasized the effort to dovetail with another conference in order to preserve limited travel funding. Current plans target a late spring or early summer 2000 meeting in Washington, D.C.

Topical Committee (TC) Reports - These reports have shown a steady increase in the number of groups joining the ranks of more than 20 DOE working groups or technical committees representing a technical or functional interest within the Department.

Many more value-added subjects for those individuals involved in DOE activities are included. Participation in these meetings is generally limited to TSMC or TC members. However, if you would like to receive more information on TSMC telecons or meetings, contact Marty Marchbanks (423-241-3658, **mmf@ornl.gov**).

The **Standards** *Forum*

United States Department of Energy

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